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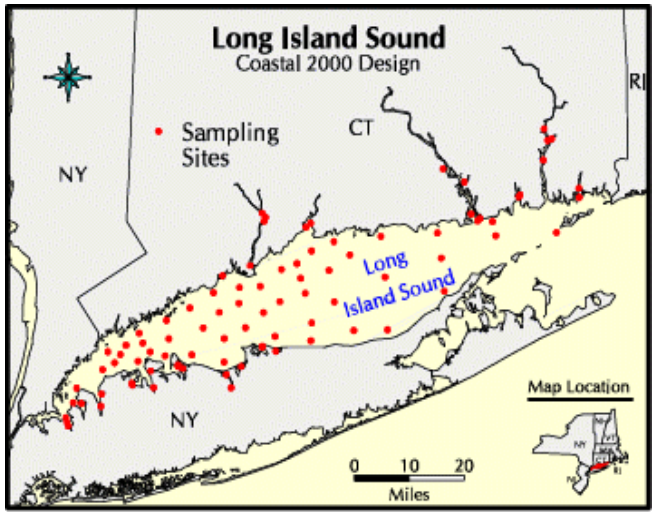
Coastal Communications

NATIONAL COASTAL ASSESSMENT
COASTAL 2000 - LONG ISLAND SOUND

ORD/REGIONS 1 & 2/OW/LISS/CT DEP/NY DEC

Background

The U.S. EPA's National Coastal Assessment (also known as Coastal 2000) consists of a multi-year partnership among EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD), EPA's Office of Water (OW), EPA's Regional Offices, all the coastal states, and selected territories. As part of this effort, EPA has developed a coastal monitoring program with EPA Regions I and II, Long Island Sound Study (LISS) Office, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP), and New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NY DEC). This joint effort will determine the condition of Long Island Sound, and it will compare this condition with other U.S. coastal areas. This effort is being coordinated by the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory's Atlantic Ecology Division in Narragansett, Rhode Island.



Coastal 2000 Strategy

Coastal 2000 is a strategic partnership between EPA and the coastal states and other federal agencies. Each state uses a compatible probabilistic design and a common set of environmental indicators (see Table below) to independently survey its coastal resources and assess their condition. These estimates can then be aggregated to assess conditions at the EPA Regional, biogeographical, and National levels. All data will be made available for public access on the Internet. The map shows the coastal areas included in the survey and the number of sampling sites intended for Long Island Sound. Elements of the existing CT DEP/LISS Long Island Sound Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Program have been integrated with the Coastal 2000 activities.

Water Quality	*Sediment Quality*	*Biota*
Dissolved oxygen	*Grain size*	*Benthic community structure*
Salinity, temperature, depth	*Total organic carbon*	*Fish community structure*
pH	*Sediment chemistry*	*Fish external pathology*
Nutrients	*Benthic community structure*	*Fish tissue chemical analyses*
Chlorophyll	*Sediment toxicity*	

Further Information

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